

City of Cleveland

CLEVELAND, TENNESSEE
Office of the Mayor

Tom Rowland
Mayor



Cleveland Municipal Building
190 Church Street, N.E.
P.O. Box 1519
(423) 476-8931
(423) 559-3364 Fax

Julius Genachowski, Chairman
Federal Communications Commission
445 12th Street, SW
Washington, DC 20554

Dear Chairman Genachowski:

I am writing to express my concern about the FCC's upcoming announcement on network neutrality. Heavily regulating wireless networks will reduce the investment in my state and cut into job growth—two issues that affect my constituents deeply.

In Tennessee, the rapid rise of the wireless market is a great success story. Nearly all residents and businesses have access to advanced wireless phones and networks, while the strong, competitive market keeps bringing new innovation. The reason for this success has been the absence of government interference. Thus, it is imperative that the FCC retain the spirit of innovation and entrepreneurship that has built the robust wireless and online networks we have today.

The FCC can take another step by avoiding network neutrality regulation of broadband deployment. Bringing broadband to all areas of the nation also requires investment in networks, well-paying local jobs and the technology needed for our cities and towns to grow new businesses that depend on communications.

I think we all agree that a fair and open Internet is important, but your proposed regulations on traditional and wireless broadband service will shut off the Internet to many constituents in my state and further cost us jobs and investment. Don't close the door to opportunity and jobs for people in my state with unnecessary new regulations.

Thank you for your attention.

Sincerely,

A handwritten signature in blue ink that reads "Tom Rowland". The signature is stylized with a large, looping "T" and "R".

Tom Rowland, Mayor
City of Cleveland, TN